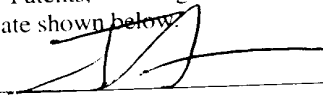




PATENT
TS-0968 (US)
JDA

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on or before the date shown below.


Jennifer D. Adamson
Date: September 13, 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of)

BERNARDUS H. BOSMANS ET AL)

Serial No. 09/757,886)

Filed January 10, 2001)

GAS-LIQUID CONTACTING TRAY)

Group Art Unit 1724

Examiner J. D. Johnson

September 13, 2002

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action of March 22, 2002 relative to the application identified above. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the following Amendment and an allowance of the instant application. A request for a three-month extension of time and an Information Disclosure Statement accompany this Amendment.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the Abstract as follows:

Gas-liquid contacting tray having a bubble area and one or more rectangular downcomers which are longer in length than in width, which downcomers have two sloped downcomer walls along their length, a downcomer opening at tray level and one or more downward directed liquid discharge openings at the lower end, which

RECEIVED
SEP 19 2002
TC 1700